

## BOOK NOTICES / BOEKAANKONDIGINGS

### DEVOTIONAL / STIGTELIKE LITERATUUR

Brown, David (ed) 1986. **The dictionary of Life. Biblical wisdom for modern living.** London: Sidgwick & Jackson. Pp 491. Price not given.

Amazingly, the Dictionary of Life is the first ever biblical reference book for the non-specialist. Up till now biblical reference books have been divided between academic concordances, alphabetically arranging all the words in the Bible and citing passages in which they occur, and factual dictionaries that detail historical, geographical and theological information.

The Dictionary of Life is revolutionary in that it meets the practical and personal concerns of modern Christians in their day-to-day lives, grouping God's wisdom under lively, contemporary headings. Bible users will find it gives immediate access, for example, to biblical advice on moral issues, such as abortion; political issues, such as disarmament; and topics of personal concern at home and at work such as envy, happiness, marriage, prayer, promotion or success. Quotations are taken from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

However, this book must be used with caution. It can very easily foster a naive biblicism, or even worse, fundamentalism. It can be no more than a help in the devotional sphere when used with discretion. A handbook for serious Bible study it is not.

David Brown is chaplain of Oriel College, Oxford.

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Clarkson, Margaret 1986. **All nature sings.** Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 74. Price R14,40 at Lux Verbi.

Margaret Clarkson, whose hymns, poems articles, and books have been cherished by readers for years, turns her attention to the wonders of God's world in this collection of nature sketches. This is a "quality of life" book - a refreshing oasis in a fevered world. From her own lifelong love affair with

nature, Clarkson offers the distilled beauty of her contemplation of the richness of God's being and his handiwork.

Clarkson engages the reader by describing familiar, everyday things - cats, birds, insects, dogs, trees, flowers, rocks. With a keen and appreciative eye she paints vivid, accurate, and truly enjoyable portraits of the smaller "natural blessings" that we seldom observe carefully, or give thanks for. Each of these portraits culminates in a spiritual application that touches earth with heaven.

There is a great variety of natural wonders in these chapters: fallen trees, long-forgotten gardens, hidden nestlings, arbutus blooming in the northern snows, wild ducks raising their young in the shadow of a busy expressway in the heart of a metropolis. Each has its own story, grounded in the temporal, yet pointing to the eternal.

Ideal for daily devotional reading, the book is also a splendid source of illustrative material for pastors, teachers, and group leaders of all kinds.

Margaret Clarkson, of Willowdale, Ontario, is the author of 15 previous books, including *Destined for Glory* (Eerdmans, 1983) and *Grace grows best in Winter* (Eerdmans, 1985).

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Oates, Wayne E 1985. *Managing your stress*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press. Pp 74. Price R9,95 at Lux Verbi.

This practical manual focuses on increasing one's stress tolerance, renewing depleted resources for resisting stress, and learning new skills for managing stress.

Wayne Oates suggests abilities which can be cultivated and mastered effectively to manage stress, including the capacity to make decisions, to tolerate frustration and ambiguous situations, to target anger, and to find a "clear-cut sense of purpose in life". Further proposals for combatting the ill-effects of stress include spreading the stress load: building, maintaining, and replenishing the life-support system; and interrupting and choosing an end to stress. Throughout the book, Oates highlights the value of spiritual commitment in stress management.

Wayne Oates is Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the School of Medicine, University of Louisville, Kentucky.

## MISCELLANEOUS / ALGEMEEN

Monsma, Steven V (ed) 1986. **Responsible technology. A Christian perspective.** Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 252. Available from Lux Verbi at R31,30.

Kenneth W Hermann of Kent State University writes as follows about this book:

"**Responsible technology** makes as significant, much-needed contribution to developing a distinctly Christian perspective on the influential role technology plays in our culture. The range of issues discussed, the depth of insight, the sensitivity to biblical directives, and the cogent presentation are all impressive.

"The articulation of specific biblically-rooted norms which ought to guide and shape our responsibility before the Lord in fabricating and using technological objects is particularly illuminating. All thoughtful Christians, whether professionals, academics, or concerned citizens, will want to read and ponder the implications of this book for guiding their obedience in a technological society.

"The Fellows of the Calvin Center are to be commended for establishing a solid agenda for all subsequent discussion of technology within the Christian community."

Stephen Monsma is director of the Office of Operations Review, Michigan Department of Social Services. The other five authors are Clifford Christians, Eugene R Dykema, Arie Leegwater, Egbert Schuurman, and Lambert J van Poolen.

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Naudé, C F Beyers & Sölle, Dorothee 1986. **Hope for faith. A conversation.** Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 38. Price at Lux Verbi R13,30.

Both authors are committed Christians, active in the struggles of our day for peace and justice. They have taken a stand, in controversial areas of the life of the church and of society, and they have suffered for it. They had never met, but they had followed each other's career from a distance. They met in the

Netherlands, for the first time, on 20 June 1985. They were interviewed for IKON Television, the Dutch ecumenical broadcasting company, by Prof. Dr Lammert Leertouwer.

One of them, Rev. Dr Christiaan Frederik Beyers Naudé, is the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches. The other, Prof Dr Dorothee Sölle, is a German theologian, now teaching at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

Reproduced in this booklet is the text, unedited for the most part, of their 90-minute conversation. In it we hear the stories of their conversion to Christ and of their involvement in the struggles of our time. We hear them talking about concerns which have increasingly claimed a place on the agenda of the ecumenical movement.

**Hope for faith** is a dialogue of commitments which touches on some of the most talked-about issues of our day. It was originally published in 1985 by Ten Have of Baarn in the Netherlands under the title **Hoop voor geloof**.

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Anderson, Ray S 1986. **Minding God's business**. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 156. Available from Lux Verbi at R26,75.

Focusing primarily on the *what* rather than the *how* of managing Christian organizations, Ray Anderson clearly presents a biblical and theological basis for understanding the unique characteristics of Christian organizations and what it means to manage such organizations in a Christian way. In doing so, he views the Christian organization as fulfilling the apostolic mandate of the church and as accountable in its methods and quality of life to be a Christian community as well.

Anderson makes a careful distinction between the church as a local parish, or congregation, and the organizations and efforts which extend the mission of the church into all the world. Yet he argues that so-called parachurch organizations must consider themselves part of the church and not merely alongside of or outside of the church's ministry.

Anderson emphasizes the role of leadership in managing Christian organizations, providing helpful teaching on issues such as strategic planning, the development of mission statements as a definition of the organization's goals, and what it means to use biblical principles, prayer, and dependence on the Holy Spirit in carrying out the organization's goals.

Invaluable for managers, leaders, and staff of Christian organisations, this book will also be useful to pastors and Church leaders, since much of what is presented here is applicable to the local church as well.

Ray Anderson is Professor of Theology and Ministry at Fuller Theological Seminary. He has written two other books, and co-authored another with Dennis Guernsey.

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Locke, Hubert G (ed) 1986. **Exile in the fatherland. Martin Niemöller's letters from Moabit Prison.** Translated by Ernst Kaemke, Kathy Elias and Jacklyn Wilferd. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 172, including a foreword and index of names. Price at Lux Verbi R24,00.

Arrested by the Gestapo in 1937 for his public opposition to Hitler, Martin Niemöller was jailed at Berlin's Moabit prison for eight months until his case came to trial in February of 1938. Although Niemöller was sentenced to time already served, Hitler furiously declared him his personal prisoner, and Niemöller was confined to the concentration camps of Sachsenhausen and Dachau until the war ended.

This volume presents, for the first time in English translation, a selection from Niemöller's voluminous correspondence during his detention in Moabit. Aided by Hubert Locke's detailed introductions, these letters provide valuable insights into the dynamics and personalities at work during this crucial period. All in all, an honest and spontaneous spirituality surfaces in letter after letter; that is, in the end, the most telling measure of this complex and very real hero of the faith.

Hubert Locke is Dean and Professor, Graduate School of Public Affairs, the University of Washington in Seattle.

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Longford, Frank 1986. **The Bishops. A study of leaders in the Church today.** London: Sidgwick & Jackson. Pp 226. Price not given.

There has been a tendency over the years for people to think that bishops - whether Anglican or Catholic - are more interested in things spiritual than earthly. Yet recently the bishops have proved that their feet are firmly planted on the ground: they have spoken out boldly and controversially, often

in opposition to the government, on major political issues - such as unemployment, inner-city housing, nuclear disarmament and the miners' strike - as well as on theological issues - such as whether women should become priests, the Virgin Birth and the Resurrection, and the question of divorce and remarriage. It is hard to remember a time when bishops have been more vociferous or more often in the news.

Some people have accused the bishops of failing to understand their role; others have welcomed this change.

But what do the bishops themselves think? How do they see the future of the Church?

To find out, Frank Longford, author, social crusader and an expert on religious matters, interviewed 13 Anglican and 10 Catholic bishops of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. The result is a series of revealing cameo portraits which, taken together, provide us with a fascinating study of religious authority in Britain today. Frank Longford also supplies us with a key to understanding the Anglican bishops' role in Parliament by analysing their performance in the House of Lords.

Lord Longford is one of the leading Catholic laity in England. His many publications include *Jesus Christ, Humility, Francis of Assisi* and the authorised biography of Pope John Paul II. He is now a Director of Help, a charitable trust.

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Motlhabi, Mokgethi 1986. **Black resistance to Apartheid.** A social-ethical analysis. Johannesburg: Skotaville Publishers. Pp 326, including comprehensive notes and a foreword by Buti Tlhagale. Price not given.

In this stimulating and thought-provoking social-ethical analysis of the internal struggle for political and social change in South Africa, Mokgethi Motlhabi evaluates the resistance movement during the period 1948-78 in terms of the moral laws.

The South African problem, he argues, is the problem of the sharing of values - material, spiritual, and cultural. A group of selfish people seeks to have and retain all, leaving the majority with crumbs and bones and thus subjugating them. This tendency has no regard for moral laws.

Those struggling for change must necessarily seek to realize these laws for the benefit of all, but are first confronted with the question of how to get rid of the present state of affairs. He states that the moral laws are themselves not fixed rules of action, but methodological principles of decision-making.

In examining the theory and practice of Black Resistance, the author points out that since the banning of Black consciousness and other related organisations in 1977, the general situation has gradually receded to the pre-Youth League era. Gone is any idea of a 'principled programme of action'.

Mokgethi Motlhabi was born in 1945 in Kagiso. He holds an MA in Religious Studies (Chicago Theological Seminary, 1975) and a Ph.D in social ethics (Boston University, Mass, 1980) for which this book was submitted in partial fulfilment. Dr Molthabi is now the director of the Educational Opportunities Council in Johannesburg.

### **A CHILDREN'S BIBLE / N KINDERBYBEL**

Hagan, Lowell & Westerhof, Jack 1986. **Theirs is the Kingdom. The New Testament.** Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 326, with illustrations by Paul Stoub. Available from Lux Verbi at R29,50.

Refreshingly exceptional, **Theirs is the Kingdom** is not another moralistically twisted recount of some Bible stories.

It is the product of a team, consisting of theologians, a teacher, an illustrator and someone with extensive editorial experience. The result is a considerable improvement on current children's Bibles. An excerpt from the introduction illustrates this:

'Four followers of Jesus wrote down the story of his birth, life, death and resurrection. We call these men the Evangelists because they wrote the Evangel, the Good News of the kingdom of God. Each had his own way of telling the stories. Matthew wanted to show the Jewish people that Jesus was the Messiah, the Redeemer God had promised.

'Mark presented Jesus as the Son of God.

'Luke wrote the good news for the Gentiles.

'John wanted to bring out the meaning of many of the things that Jesus did, meanings that Jesus' followers did not understand at the time.

'So each of the four Gospel writers told the story of Jesus in his own way. They chose which stories to tell, which details to include, and the order in which to tell them - to bring out their individual points. None of them sat down to write a story as we would, with all the pieces of information lined up like tin soldiers.

'We have not tried to put everything in order like a modern-day history book. Instead, we have told the stories in five main groups. Each group of stories centres on one main idea. By doing this, we have tried to bring out the different ways in which the four Gospels look at the life of Jesus. All these separate stories together are the one story of Jesus of Nazareth, God's chosen Messiah.'

### NEW TESTAMENT / NUWE TESTAMENT

Gaventa, Beverly Roberts 1986. **From light to darkness. Aspects of conversion in the New Testament.** Philadelphia: Fortress Press. Pp 160, including an index of passages. Price R21,65 at Lux Verbi.

By examining key biblical texts, especially in Luke-Acts, Paul, John, and 1 Peter, Gaventa aims 'to learn what conversion and transformation meant in the contexts of first-century Christianity and to compare that with understandings of being "born again".'

She studies the function of conversion language and conversion narratives from the perspective of comparative religion and social psychology. She proposes a threefold typology of personal change - alternation, conversion, transformation - for understanding conversion both in the first century and today.

Beverly Gaventa is Associate Professor of New Testament at Colgate Rochester Divinity School, Bexley Hall, Crozer Theological Seminary, Rochester, New York.

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Wink, Walter 1986. **Unmasking the powers. The invisible forces that determine human existence.** Philadelphia: Fortress Press. Pp 227, including an index of authors, an index of passages, and notes.

Morton Kelsy, Professor emeritus of the University of Notre Dame, describes this book as follows:



'**Unmasking the powers** is one of the most powerful and incisive treatments of the evils which afflict our society and our church that I have ever read.' Walter Wink deals with the many ways that the powers of evil infiltrate our lives.

'This book is a must for anyone who would understand the seductive and destructive aspects of evil which are so much a part of human life. It provides not only methods by which the influence of evil can be unmasked, but also hints of how that influence can be counteracted.'

Water Wink is Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Auburn Theological Seminary, New York City. He is the author of **The Bible in human transformation** and **Naming the Powers: the language of power in the New Testament** (The Powers, vol. 1). The present volume is volume 2 in a projected trilogy.

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Johnson, Luke T 1986. **The writings of the New Testament. An interpretation.** Philadelphia: Fortress Press. Pp 593, including two indices: Scriptural passages, and ancient authors. Available from Lux Verbi at R45,75.

'Johnson is extraordinarily succesful in leading the reader into the New Testament texts themselves....,' writes Abraham J Malherbe about this book. 'Imaginative in conception, clear in presentation, and lively in style, the book deserves the wide use it is sure to enjoy for some time to come.'

John R Donahue sums it up as follows: 'Nothing available so well combines knowledge of the history and literature with concern for the lived experience behind the New Testament texts.'

William G Doty comments: 'By focusing upon the inner social and religious experiences of the primitive Christian communities in which the writings of the New Testament were produced, Johnson is able to stress literary qualities and social dynamics ... It is a very attractive work ... Johnson's hand is a guiding and a sure one, based upon thoroughly researched and contemporary information.'

Luke Johnson is Associate Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins in the Department of Religious Studies, Indiana University.

## OLD TESTAMENT / OU TESTAMENT

Childs, Brevard S 1986. **Old Testament Theology in a canonical context.** Philadelphia: Fortress Press. Pp 255, including two indices: authors, and biblical references. Available from Lux Verbi; price not given.

Great differences of opinion exist among contemporary scholars as to how the task of writing an Old Testament theology should proceed. Here Professor Childs argues that a canonical approach to the scriptures of the Old Testament, as pioneered in his recent books, opens up a fruitful avenue along which to explore the theological dimensions of the biblical text. Such an approach not only resolves many existing problems, but also gives the Old Testament a more powerful role in the life of the Christian church.

For Professor Childs, the object of the theological reflection is the canonical writings of the Old Testament, not the events or experiences behind them. The term 'Old Testament' correctly recognises that the discipline is part of Christian theology, essentially Christian because of the context in which that theology is practised.

Beginning with the Old Testament revelation, his approach considers the laws of God; the recipients of God's revelation and the agents of his rule, from prophets to kings; the dimensions of being human, and the shape of life under promise and threat.

Here is a distinctive new voice in a complex field, and one which is likely to generate a good deal of discussion and conflict.

Brevard Childs is Professor of Old Testament at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

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Gowan, Donald E 1986. **Eschatology in the Old Testament.** Philadelphia: Fortress Press. Pp 150. Available from Lux Verbi at R24,00.

Using a canonical approach - in which he focuses on the whole Old Testament rather than on the teachings of individual Old Testament authors - Gowan traces the hope of the people Israel. He maintains that for God to make things right, a threefold transformation of the world must take place; God must transform the human person, human society, and nature itself.

For each of the major themes associated with this transformation, Gowan outlines Israel's pre-eschatological traditions, the development of futuristic thought in the Old Testament, and the subsequent history of each aspect of hope in Judaism, Christianity, and our own world.

Of this book, Gowan himself writes:

'This is a study of the theology of the eschatological traditions of Israel ...

'Form-critical and traditio-historical studies have already shown us that the teachings of individuals such as Isaiah, even if they can be determined with certainty, are actually of less significance than what Israel believed. Since it was the book ascribed to Isaiah which became canonical, then what Israel believed included his teachings plus whatever else may have been added, and they are all important. This concurs with recent emphases on taking the final, canonical form of the tradition as the basic unit to be interpreted. This is not a synchronic presentation of the type that has sometimes appeared in biblical theologies, putting everything on the same level and ignoring historical change...

'My approach is thematic, like some earlier theologies and monographs, but it is more comprehensive and organised in a different way. Since the history of the various traditions will be traced, decisions about the probable dates of certain passages still have to be made. The principal concern will be thematic development, however, rather than attempting to connect passages with particular historical events.'

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Miller, Patric D jr 1986. **Interpreting the Psalms**. Philadelphia: Fortress Press. Pp 165, including two indices: scripture and authors. Available from Lux Verbi at R26,45.

Patrick Miller seeks to help interpreters of the psalms 'find entree into them in various ways to hear their theological claims and their point of contact with human life.'

In part one, Miller examines the dominant 'general approaches' that are currently shaping the study of psalms. He pays special attention to the poetic features of the psalms so as to aid the task of understanding their meaning.

In part two he offers extended expositions of ten specific psalms - 1, 2, 14, 22, 23, 82, 90, 127, and 139. These psalms are interpreted with an eye to theological and pastoral issues and with a sensitivity to their features and to their significance as Christian Scripture.

Patrick Miller, jr, is Charles P Haley Professor of Old Testament Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary.

## BLACK AND AFRICAN THEOLOGY

Vilakazi, Absolom with Mthethwa, Bongani & Mpanza, Mthembeni 1986. **Shembe. The revitalization of African society.** Johannesburg: Skotaville. Pp 165. Price not given.

In African Reformation - a new development in world Christianity which has been ignored by Christian writers, or, if noticed, treated as an aberration in the way Africans think - the Black man is claiming for himself the right to interpret the Bible as he understands it; and believes that the white mission churches are apostate and that they have been agents of Western imperialism, especially in the cultural sense.

The authors have made extensive research to present, in this book, the theology of the Shembe Church. Its chief sociological aim is to regenerate the African society. Thus it seeks to help the Africans to adjust themselves to new situations and to give them new values. In organizing this new purified society, Isaiah Shembe modelled on the old, but brought in a considerable amount of Christian elements; and built into society a new dynamic evolutionary process.

Absolom Vilakazi is the director of the Centre for Research and Documentation at the University of Zululand.

Bongani Mthethwa is a music lecturer and a follower of Shembe.

Mthembeni Mpanza is author of the yet to be published manuscript, UShembe NobuNazaretha.

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Cone, James H 1986. **Speaking the truth. Ecumenism, liberation, and Black theology.** Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 167. Available from Lux Verbi at R21,25.

A driving concern to speak the truth with love, courage and care for the poor and voiceless is richly and powerfully evident in this collection of recent essays by James Cone.

Cone addresses topics of black theology and its relationship to other Christian theologies (especially liberation theology) and secular ideologies, the role of the black churches in American history, Christian faith and political praxis, and the unique features of black worship. He also offers his initial reflections on his 1985 trip to South Africa - an experience that has had a deep influence on his theological perspective.

Cone argues that there can be no comprehension of the gospel apart from God's solidarity with the liberation struggles of the poor, because the freedom of the victims on earth is the eschatological sign of God's intention to redeem the whole creation.

'As ambassadors of Jesus Christ,' he writes, 'Christians have no choice but to join the movement of liberation on the side of the poor, fighting against the structures of injustice.'

Provocative and stimulating, **Speaking the truth** reflects Cone's passionate concern for the poor and oppressed of all races and in all places.

The book is concluded with a postscript titled: 'A Black American's perspective on South Africa.'

James Cone is Charles H Briggs Professor of Systematic Theology at Union Theological Seminary, New York City. He has written three other books.

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King, Charles H jr 1986. **Fire in my bones**. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 230. Price at Lux Verbi R20,85.

Nationally known in the USA for his provocative seminars on racism, Charles King tells the stirring story of his lifelong struggle against racism in this book, now available for the first time in paperback.

This revised edition focuses more on the autobiographical details and less on analysis and argument than the original. Nevertheless, it still conveys the thought behind the encounter method that King employs in his seminars, while casting into even bolder relief the burning emotional intensity of the author.

All in all, it offers a vivid picture of institutionalized racism in the United States from the first-hand perspective of one of its victims.

## COMMENTARIES / KOMMENTARE

Oswalt, John N 1986. **The book of Isaiah. Chapters 1-39.** Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 746, including four indices: subjects, authors, Scriptures and Hebrew words. Available from Lux Verbi at R72,35.

The book of Isaiah requires much of any interpreter: theological acumen, literary sensitivity, philological expertise, historical knowledge. John Oswalt demonstrates his ability in these areas in this first volume of his two-volume commentary on Isaiah in the **New International Commentary on the Old Testament** series.

In addition to brief discussions of title, occasion, canonicity, and text (including the famous Isaiah scrolls from Qumran), Oswalt's introduction provides more substantial discussions of several issues crucial to the book of Isaiah.

He breaks down his discussion of the historical background into different sections to correspond to the principal settings that the three main divisions of the book address. That is, chapters 1-39 were written for Isaiah's contemporaries in the eighth century B C; chapters 40-55 presuppose the exile of the sixth century; and chapters 56-66 presuppose the eventual return from exile.

He then takes up the problem of the unity of the book, which he defends. He points out the weaknesses of the arguments for multiple authorship while noting the overarching themes that suggest one author.

Next, he discusses the related matters of date and authorship, and argues that the whole book should be attributed to Isaiah of the eighth century. His most extensive discussion concerns the book's theology: the four topics that he sees as most important for Isaiah's thought are God, humanity and the world, sin, and redemption. He also examines four problems in interpretation: the unity of the book, the significance of prediction, the identity of the Servant of the Lord, and the function of the book in the total canon. He concludes his introduction with a general discussion and detailed outline of the contents, and a thorough, up-to-date bibliography.

Following the format of the NICOT series, Oswalt offers his own translation of the Hebrew text, with textual and philological notes to support. The commentary itself is lucid, expository, and theological; Oswalt sets forth Isaiah's message to his ancient audience as well as his message to us today.

John Oswalt is Professor of Old Testament and Semitic Languages, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois. He is also the author of **Where are you, God?**, a study of the book of Malachi.

## SYSTEMATICS / SISTEMATIEK

Hall, Douglas John 1986. **Imaging God. Dominion as stewardship.** Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 248. Available from Lux Verbi at R21,65.

The deterioration of our natural environment under the impact of a rampant technological society is one of the major crises of our time. For many analysts, a primary cause of this crisis is the influence on Western culture of the Judaeo-Christian concept of the human being as having 'dominion' over the rest of creation.

In this book, Douglas Hall does not attempt to exonerate historical Christianity from that charge. But, he argues, confession alone is not enough. The crisis of nature forces us to rethink our whole understanding of the relation between humanity and nature - an understanding that is based on the concept that human beings are created in the image of God (*imago Dei*).

Hall carefully examines the biblical, historical and theological meaning of this term, which, more than another biblical expression, became Christianity's symbolic way of designating the essence of the human. Hall argues that the image of God is not an endowment - it is not something that human beings 'have'; rather, it is a quality that pertains to our relationship with God. We should think of *imago* as a verb, not a noun, he says. The human vocation within the created order is 'to image' the Creator.

When this is applied in a consistent and serious way, the idea of human 'domination' over all of nature must be radically reinterpreted. Taking the Lordship of Jesus as an authentic model for understanding our human relation to the natural order, means that domination is expressed not as mastery but as service - sacrificial service of the others with and for whom one is responsible. Thus the concept of dominion as stewardship eschews any idea of ownership or superiority in relation to nature, yet assumes a special accountability for its welfare.

A provocative and original work, Hall's book retains the biblical centrality of **Homo sapiens** while at the same time raising both nature and God to a new kind of prominence in the dialogue that is life.

Douglas John Hall is Professor of Christian Theology at McGill University in Montreal.

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Mills, Watson E 1986. **Speaking in tongues. A guide to research on Glossolalia**. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pp 537. Price at Lux Verbi R68,49.

A considerable disruption occurred in mainline Christendom in the 1960s and 1970s. It was caused, in part, by a dispute rooted in the experiential dimension of the faith. At the centre of the controversy was a practice known as glossolalia, or speaking in tongues. Participants defended the practice as necessary and essential to the Christian faith, while opponents, with equal vigour, rejected the phenomenon as esoteric and meaningless.

It was not until the debate about the usefulness of tongues subsided that researchers were motivated to put the phenomenon under the microscope and examine it as they would any other phenomenon in the range of religious experience.

In this volume, Watson Mills brings together representative examples from five of the different methodological approaches that have emerged in the last quarter century of research on glossolalia: the exegetical model, the historical model, the theological model, the psychological model, and the socio-cultural model.

The attempt here is not to advocate a personal or theological position regarding glossolalia, but rather to explore the available methods for evaluating this phenomenon so that a clearer understanding of its nature and essence will emerge for both those who participate and those who do not.

Watson Mills, Professor of New Testament Studies at Mercer University, is the author of numerous books, monographs, and articles. Among his recent works are **Charismatic religion in modern research: A bibliography and An exegetical-theological approach to Glossolalia**.